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Mindful of Silver

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The
GOLDSMITHS'
Company

Mindful of Silver

*Revealing the journey
behind 12 vessels by
leading contemporary
British silversmiths.*

Vladimir Böhm
David Clarke
Rebecca de Quin
Sarah Denny
Alistair McCallum
Grant McCaig
Hector Miller
Peter Musson
Theresa Nguyen
Michael Rowe
Toby Russell
Lucian Taylor

www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk

Grant McCaig

Carafe and four cups, 2010

Fine silver. Pleated, seamed
and hand-raised.

"The things we surround ourselves with, act as triggers that enable us to feel, recoding and holding memories through occasions and celebrations". The belief that lies at the centre of Grant McCaig's work is that these "things" offer more than a physical presence and represent more than the space they occupy or the material from which they are made. The work uses the historical symbols of silversmithing, echoing familiar domestic objects. Drinking vessels, recognisable and established within the context of our lives, are a starting point beyond which exists a personal dialogue between McCaig and the silver sheet.

McCaig works directly into the metal using the technique of fold forming to pleat his material. This aspect of the making is documented in detail by embossing directly into paper from the

folds in the surface of the silver. They explore the idea of the human body as a landscape, looking to the notion of contour lines to define shape and offer a visual rhythm to the finished works. The pleats are decorative, creating a series of vertical creases that travel the length of each vessel once again referencing contour lines in the way that they compress and spread over the developing vessel surface. The vessels become a visual document of a journey through making: "a balance of making and observing".



